

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A door checker for an automobile, comprising: a case secured to a door turnably supported on a body of an automobile; a check lever which is swingably supported on said body to extend through said case and which has a ball guide groove formed in its side face to extend in a lengthwise direction; a ball holder accommodated in said case and capable of being moved toward and away from the side face of said check lever; a check ball retained in said ball holder and capable of being rolled in said ball guide groove; and a check spring for biasing said ball holder toward said ball guide groove; said check lever having an intermediate recess which is formed in its side face and deeper than said ball guide groove, and into which said check ball is fitted by a biasing force of said check spring in order to generate a moderation resistance in a position of at least one medium opening degree;

wherein said intermediate recess is formed so that a second opening width in a direction intersecting a centerline of said ball guide groove is larger than a first opening width along said centerline of said ball guide groove.

2. A door checker for an automobile according to claim 1, wherein said intermediate recess is of a shape formed by elongating a recess formed by a portion of a virtual spherical surface having a diameter substantially equal to a diameter of said check ball, away from the center line of the ball guide groove in a direction intersecting said centerline.